## **EXHIBIT C**

From: <u>ice-foia@ice.dhs.gov</u>
To: <u>Daniel Galindo</u>

**Subject:** ICE FOIA 2024-ICFO-50888

**Date:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 11:44:58 AM

## This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

08/14/2024

Daniel Galindo 125 Broad Street New York, New York 1004

RE: ICE FOIA Case Number 2024-ICFO-50888

Dear Requester:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), dated 8/9/2024, your request for a waiver of all assessable FOIA fees, and your request for expedited treatment. Your request was received in this office on 8/9/2024. Specifically, you have requested records pertaining to Information ("RFI") titled "Multi-State Detention Facility Support - Request for Information," originally issued by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") on May 30, 2024, to "identify possible detention facilities" in areas covered by the Chicago, Harlingen, and Salt Lake City Enforcement and Removal Operations ("ERO") Field Offices. Requestor also seeks the disclosure of records submitted in response to ICE's "Contract Detention Facility Solicitation No. 70CDCR24R00000012 – ERO Newark, New Jersey Area of Responsibility," originally published on June 26, 2024..

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, ICE processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although ICE's goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period. As your request seeks numerous documents that will necessitate a thorough and wideranging search, ICE will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by Title 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). If you're able to narrow the scope of your request please contact our office. Narrowing the scope may speed up the search process. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

Your request for expedited treatment is hereby denied.

Under the DHS FOIA regulations, expedited processing of a FOIA request is warranted if the request

involves "circumstances in which the lack of expedited treatment could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual," 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(e)(1)(i), or "an urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged federal government activity, if made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information," 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(e)(l)(ii). Requesters seeking expedited processing must submit a statement explaining in detail the basis for the request, and that statement must be certified by the requester to be true and correct. 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(e)(3).

Your request for expedited processing is denied because you do not qualify for either category under 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(e)(1). You failed to demonstrate a particular urgency to inform the public about the government activity involved in the request beyond the public's right to know about government activity generally. Your letter was conclusory in nature and did not present any facts to justify a grant of expedited processing under the applicable standards.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS Interim FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requesters. As a non-commercial requester, you will be charged 10 cents per page for duplication; the first 100 pages are free, as are the first two hours of search time, after which you will pay the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00 for clerical personnel, \$7.00 for professional personnel, \$10.25 for managerial personnel) of the searcher. We will construe the submission of your request as an agreement to pay up to \$25.00. You will be contacted before any further fees are accrued. If you deem the decision to deny expedited treatment and fee waiver for your request an adverse determination, you have the right to appeal. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(e)(2). You may submit your appeal electronically at GILDFOIAAppeals@ice.dhs.gov or via regular mail to:

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of the Principal Legal Advisor U.S. Department of Homeland Security 500 12th Street,, S.W., Mail Stop 5900 Washington, D.C. 20536-5900

Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS regulations are available at <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/foia">www.dhs.gov/foia</a>.

ICE has queried the appropriate program offices within ICE for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of the processors in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

If you have any questions please contact FOIA Public Liaison Daniel Edgington, at (866) 633-1182 or 500 12th St, SW Stop 5009 Washington, DC 20536-5009. Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act

request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448.

Your request has been assigned reference number 2024-ICFO-50888. Please use this number in future correspondence.

Sincerely,

ICE FOIA Office Immigration and Customs Enforcement Freedom of Information Act Office 500 12th Street, S.W., Stop 5009 Washington, D.C. 20536-5009